

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 23 JUL 2004

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Applicant's or agent's file reference 2078/PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form-PCT/PEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB 03/03411	International filing date (day/month/year) 04.08.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 06.08.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC H05B6/80		
Applicant CAVITY PROTECTION SYSTEMS LIMITED et al.		

1. This International preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
 - This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 8 sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the opinion
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 07.02.2004	Date of completion of this report 22.07.2004
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465	Authorized Officer Merkt, A Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2935



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I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

Description, Pages

1-6 filed with telefax on 09.06.2004

Claims, Numbers

1-16 . . . filed with telefax on 09.06.2004

Drawings, Sheets

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 - the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 - the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 - The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 - The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

- 4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:**

- the description, pages:
 - the claims, Nos.:
 - the drawings, sheets:

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5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).
(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-16
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

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Re Item V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Reference is made to the following documents:

- D1: US-A-4 778 968 (TORRES MATTHEW A) 18 October 1988 (1988-10-18)
- D2: US-A-4 481 395 (PANGBORN GEORGE W ET AL) 6 November 1984 (1984-11-06)
- D3: US-A-6 137 097 (HOGAN DAVID ET AL) 24 October 2000 (2000-10-24)
- D4: US-A-5 290 985 (JANCIC DALE A ET AL) 1 March 1994 (1994-03-01)
- D5: US-A-5 512 737 (MIKLOS JOSEPH P) 30 April 1996 (1996-04-30)
- D6: US-A-4 563 559 (ENAMI TOSHIAKI) 7 January 1986 (1986-01-07)

The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and shows (see especially column 3, line 57 to column 4, line 20 and figure 3) a microwave oven liner comprising a roof (16'), a floor (15'), a back (14') and two sides (14'), all being of food grade plastics material and of sufficient (relative term! = unclear) rigidity for automatic washing, the whole being sized to fit removably in a microwave oven.

The subject-matter of claim 1 differs therefrom in that the roof is shorter at the front, which is open, than the floor, to allow air to circulate for steam withdrawal from the oven.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT).

The problem to be solved by the present invention may be regarded as to improve the air circulation in the oven.

The solution to this problem proposed in claim 1 of the present application is considered as involving an inventive step (Article 33(3) PCT) for the following reasons as these differentiating features are neither known from nor rendered obvious by the available prior art documents.

Claims 2-16 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the

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PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

The industrial applicability of the invention is obvious.

Annotations:

Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the documents D1-D5 is not mentioned in the description, nor are these documents identified therein.

Independent claim 1 is not in the two-part form in accordance with Rule 6.3(b) PCT, which in the present case would be appropriate, with those features known in combination from the prior art (document D1) being placed in the preamble (Rule 6.3(b)(I) PCT) and with the remaining features being included in the characterising part (Rule 6.3(b)(ii) PCT).

The features of the claims are not provided with reference signs placed in parentheses (Rule 6.2(b) PCT).